DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 095 942 JC 740 312

TITLE	Technical College Enrollments '72. Detailed Report of Nebraska Higher Education Enrollment Statistics, Fall Term 1972.
INSTITUTION	Nebraska Higher Education Facilities Commission, Lincoln.
SPONS AGENCY	Bureau of Higher Education (DHEW/OE), Washington, D.C. Div. of Academic Facilities.
PUB DATE	[72]
NOTE	24p.
EDRS PRICE	MF-$0.75 HC-$1.50 PLUS POSTAGE
DESCRIPTORS	*Community Colleges; *Enrollment Rate; Post Secondary Education; State Surveys; Statistical Data; Tables (Data); *Technical Education; Technical Reports; *Vocational Education
IDENTIFIERS	Higher Education Act; *Nebraska

ABSTRACT

Enrollment data for technical colleges in Nebraska for the year 1972 are provided. Following a summary that discusses the technical college system, total enrollment, enrollment by academic level, freshmen enrollment, and solutions in reporting, 12 exhibits provide the detailed data. These exhibits are: Nebraska Technical Community Colleges, Operating Fall Term 1972; Head Count Enrollment by Academic Level, Fall 1971, 1972; Nebraska Freshman Entrances to Vocational-Technical Colleges by County, Fall 1972; Demographic Representation of Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972--Central Nebraska Technical Community College, Lincoln Nebraska Technical Community College, Mid-Plains Nebraska Technical Community College, Nebraska Technical Community College (Milford), Northeast Nebraska Technical Community College, Omaha Nebraska Technical Community College, Western Nebraska Technical Community College; Non-Nebraska Freshman Entrances to Vocational-Technical Colleges by State, Fall 1972; and Demographic Representation of Non-Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972. (DB)

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TECHNICAL COLLEGE ENROLLMENTS '72

DETAILED REPORT

OF

NEBRASKA HIGHER EDUCATION ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

FALL TERM 1972

THE NEBRASKA HIGHER EDUCATION FACILITIES COMMISSION

This project was supported by a fiscal year 1972 grant awarded under Title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 from the Division of Academic Facilities, U. S. Office of Education.

JC 740 312

FOREWORD

The need for reliable information has become critical for public educational institutions. This report is the first time that the technical institutions have been reported separately and points up the need for a coordinated effort in data collection. With the consolidation of the public junior colleges and the technical institutions July 1, 1973, this need for common data definitions and information systems will become more pronounced. The Nebraska Higher Education Facilities Commission is attempting to improve the information flow currently available to make it more meaningful to institutions and to provide more objective criteria upon which to base the state's needs and priorities. This goal is an ambitious but not an unrealistic position; and with the institutions' continued cooperation, the benefits derived will be mutually satisfying to all concerned. We have the need, the opportunity is available, and the results could be significant.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael J. Winterhalter

Michael J. Winterhalter
Executive Director
NHEFC

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SUMMARY

Technical College System

The 1972 Detailed Enrollment Report separates the technical colleges from the other postsecondary institutions in the state. This is in contrast to the report of last year which placed the technical college statistics in with those of the traditional postsecondary school systems. The reason for this separation in reporting lies in the fact that the technical schools' educational systems are quite different from those of the schools in the traditional system. There are many variations between systems in the technical schools themselves, which increased the difficulty of obtaining data which could be used in making completely accurate school-to-school comparisons.

One example of a difference between a technical school system and the traditional enrollment system occurs at Central Nebraska Technical Community College. Students have no specific day on which they must begin a semester. Therefore, on any given day in the school year, one could possibly find students entering the school system and, at the same time, find students completing their course(s) and leaving the school system or entering new course(s). This situation creates a student head count which fluctuates from day to day and which makes accurate reporting quite difficult. Also, by reporting the enrollment on a certain date, the cumulative number of students who pass through the school's system in a year is understated. Central Nebraska Technical Community College reported a cumulative total of 3,339 students last year which is much greater than the 1,519 total reported in the fall of 1971.

Other discrepancies also appear because of differences in semester lengths between the schools and the lengths of time that the individual colleges have set up for their educational programs. Several of the schools operate on a six-quarter (1 1/2 year) system, some operate on two-year systems, and one, Omaha Technical Community College, operates mainly on a one-year system with a few students enrolled in two-year programs. A discrepancy with respect to the length of the scholastic program also occurs within the school itself, in the case of Nebraska Tech. at Milford. Nebraska Tech. operates on a six-quarter system and in 1971 reported as sophomores only those students who had completed four quarters (1 year) of schooling. This year, they reported those students who had completed three quarters of schooling as sophomores, thereby causing a slight variation in the freshman-sophomore ratio when comparing the enrollment for the two years. In this case, the school was unable to trace back and separate the students into comparable academic levels for the two years. Other schools had similar reporting problems; they simply did not keep detailed records for some of the information that was required in the report because they had no specific need for that type of information at that time.

Keeping these reporting problems in mind, the information in this report can be of most use if it is used to compare the enrollment in the technical schools between the two years. The enrollment figures should not be used to compare the enrollment in the technical college system with that of the schools in the traditional postsecondary system.

Total Enrollment

The revised enrollment figures for the fall of 1971 and 1972 are quite different from those shown in the preliminary report. The revised total enrollment figures are as follows:

INSTITUTION	ENROLLMENT FALL 1971	ENROLLMENT Fall 1972	HEAD COUNT CHANGE	% HEAD COUNT CHANGE
Central Nebr. Tech.	1,519	1,782	263	17.31
Lincoln Nebr. Tech.	364	710	346	95.05
Mid-Plains Nebr. Tech.	594	1,047	453	76.26
Nebr. Tech.--Milford	807	853	+46	5.70
Northeast Nebr. Tech.	224	422	198	88.39
Omaha Nebr. Tech.	3,698	5,295	1,597	43.18
Western Nebr. Tech.	188	221	33	17.55
TOTALS	7,394	10,330	2,936	39.70*

*Percentage figure is derived by placing the total head count change over the total 1971 head count, not by adding the percentage head count change column.

The revised figures indicate an increase of 2,936 students; a 39.70% rise in student enrollment. This is in contrast to the earlier report of a 269 student (3.6%) enrollment decrease. The enrollment figures for both the fall of 1971 and 1972 had to be revised because of errors due to the problems in reporting discussed in the preceding section of the summary. All of the institutions indicated some degree of enrollment increase. A part of this increase in some of the schools can be attributed to new programs which were added in the past year. An example of this occurred at Mid-Plains Technical Community College where an optometric program was added in the fall of 1972. Expansion of adult education courses and other part-time programs have also been contributing factors for part of the enrollment increases in several of the schools.

Enrollment by Academic Level

The breakdown of the student enrollment by academic level (shown on page 6) indicates an overall increase in 1972 for all of the three academic classifications making up the technical

college system. The highest increase on a percentage basis occurred in the sophomore level (77.63%); but the largest absolute increase occurred in the unclassified level where there was a 1,943 student enrollment increase, more than five times the increase in either of the other two academic levels. The smallest absolute and percentage increase occurred at the freshman level where enrollment rose by 20.32% (355 students). A graphic representation of total student enrollment and enrollment by academic level is shown in Exhibit 2.

A breakdown of the student enrollment into full-time and part-time categories in 1972 is shown below:

ACADEMIC LEVEL	ENROLLMENT FULL-TIME	ENROLLMENT PART-TIME
Freshman	1,946	156
Sophomore	782	76
Unclassified	6	5,582
TOTALS	2,734	5,814
% of Total Enroll.	31.98%	68.02%

*The breakdown excludes Central Nebraska Technical Community College for which detailed figures were unavailable.

The breakdown shows that less than one-third (31.98%) of the students were enrolled in enough classes to be counted as full-time, The full-time (2,734 students) and part-time (5,814 students) totals are quite close to the 1972 freshman and sophomore (2,960 students) and unclassified (5,588 students) student enrollment figures. This situation occurs because of difficulties that most of the technical schools had in separating those students not taking courses to apply toward specific degrees from those students who did intend to eventually receive some type of degree (or diploma, certificate, etc.). Therefore, most of the schools were forced to consider their full-time students as working toward degrees and to consider their part-time students as not intending to apply their courses toward any specific degrees.

Freshmen Enrollment

Freshman enrollments to the vocational-technical system coming from students who were enrolled in Nebraska high schools last year are shown in Exhibits 3-10. Exhibit 3 shows the detailed Nebraska freshman enrollments by county and by institution. Exhibits 4-10 show graphically where the major concentration of Nebraska freshman enrollments occurs for each technical school. These exhibits show that a major portion of each school's Nebraska freshman enrollment comes from the county that it is located in and from counties located in the same general area.

Exhibits 11 and 12 illustrate this same principle with regard to states, showing the out-of-state freshman entrances from high schools. The states in the region surrounding Nebraska provide most of the out-of-state input to the technical college system. Foreign students did, however, have a large impact on out-of-state enrollments from high schools.

A comparison of the total freshman enrollment from high schools in Nebraska (1,607 students) to the total freshman enrollment from out-of-state high schools (34 students) shows that 97.92% of freshman entrances to the technical college system from high schools are from within the state. This means that almost all of the impact of freshman enrollments to the technical college system from high schools comes from within the state itself; the impact of out-of-state freshman entrances from high schools is relatively minor.

Solutions in Reporting

The problems in reporting experienced by the technical schools made it impossible to include their data directly in with the data of those schools in the traditional system. If the reporting problems could be eliminated in the future, the two reports could be combined into a single, more meaningful report. The purpose of this final section of the summary is to suggest a few possible ways in which some of the reporting problems could be alleviated.

One of the reporting problems concerned the fact that the enrollment fluctuated throughout the school terms for many of the technical colleges. One possible way to alleviate this problem would be to have all of the postsecondary schools in the state report the cumulative student contact hours which their respective students had amassed up to the reporting date. The student contact hour would have to be a fixed standard to which all of the schools could adapt their credit systems, since all of the schools do not have credit hours which are equivalent to each other at the present time. Student enrollment could easily be compared from year to year, and the full-time and part-time breakdown would be unnecessary. Student contact hours would reflect the status of each institution better than the number of students each institution had enrolled. The student contact hours would reflect the educational costs to the institution more accurately than student head count. The institutions would, however, have to keep records as to the student head count for purposes such as their informational requirements for future housing demands, for other internal control needs, and for HEGIS reports.

Another problem occurred because of difficulties that the technical schools had in reporting accurately on the current academic level of students enrolled in their institutions in the fall of 1971. If student contact hours were recorded when a student began a course and credited to him when he completed a course, an up-to-date report on the status of all of the students could be easily compiled at any time. Students who had accumulated enough contact hours would be recorded as having graduated and those not completing enough contact hours for a degree and not currently enrolled would be considered as having exited the system.

These suggestions refer to the contact hour concept; however, the credit hour approach could be used as well. The point is not which approach should be used, but that there be a common denominator upon which to base the impact of each institution as it effects postsecondary education in Nebraska. The greater the amount of objective analysis available to the institutions and the state, the more objective will be the decisions made in response to education.

Many other problems occurred during the process of compiling the report. Hopefully, these problems will be eliminated in the near future, and the report of next year will be able to include the technical college report in with the traditional postsecondary enrollment report.

Head Count Enrollments by Academic Level, Fall-1971, 1972 and Comparison*

INSTITUTION ACADEMIC LEVEL	INSTITUTION LINCOLN NEBR. TECH.	MID-PLAINS NEBR. TECH.	NEBR. TECH. MILFORD	NORTHEAST NEBR. TECH.	OMAHA NEBR. TECH.	WESTERN NEBR. TECH.	TOTAL
Freshmen-1971	356	139	536	168	403	145	1,747
Freshmen-1972	546	195	363	332	483	183	2,102
Change	190	56	(173)	164	80	38	355
% Change							20.32%
Sophomores-1971	8	105	271	56		43	483
Sophomores-1972	164	55	490	90	27	32	858
Change	156	(50)	219	34	27	(11)	375
% Change							77.63%
Unclassified-1971		350			3,295		3,645
Unclassified-1972		797			4,785	6	5,588
Change		447			1,490	6	1,943
% Change							53.30%

*Detailed data concerning the student enrollment by academic level was not available for Central Nebraska Technical Community College.

EXHIBITS

Detailed Report of
Nebraska Higher Education Enrollment Statistics
Fall Term 1972

EXHIBIT 1--Nebraska Technical Community Colleges, Operating Fall Term 1972

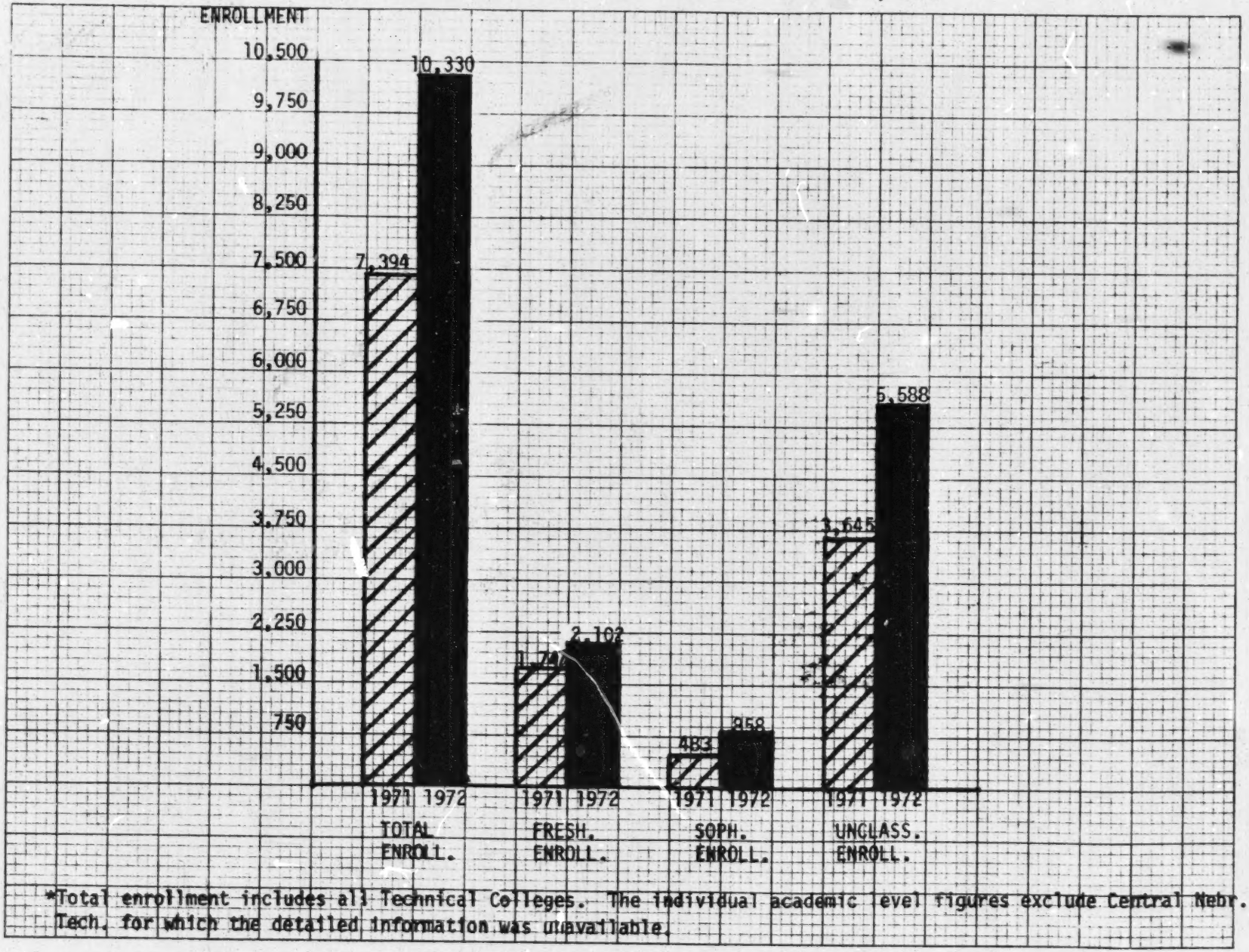
INSTITUTION*	LOCATION	FOUNDED	HIGHEST DEGREE OFFERED**	STUDENT BODY	TOTAL HEAD COUNT ENROLLMENT FALL 1972
Central Nebr. Tech. Community College	Hastings	1966	Assoc.	Coed	1,782
Lincoln Nebr. Tech. Community College	Lincoln	1969	Assoc.	Coed	710
Mid-Plains Nebr. Tech. Community College	North Platte	1966	Assoc.	Coed	1,047
Nebraska Tech. Community College	Milford	1963	Assoc.	Coed	853
Northeast Nebr. Tech. Community College	Norfolk	1966	Assoc.	Coed	422
Omaha Nebr. Tech. Community College	Omaha	1967	Assoc.	Coed	5,295
Western Nebr. Tech. Community College	Sidney	1965	Assoc.	Coed	221
TOTAL					10,330

*These schools are all in the process of applying for accreditation or have applied and are waiting for official recognition by the North Central Association, the recognized accrediting body for this region.

**All of the schools offer Associate degrees of some type. No one type of degree (Associate of Science, Associate of Arts, etc.) is superior to the others.

EXHIBIT 2

Head Count Enrollment by Academic Level,* Fall--1971, 1972



*Total enrollment includes all Technical Colleges. The individual academic level figures exclude Central Nebr. Tech. for which the detailed information was unavailable.

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EXHIBIT 3--Nebraska Freshman Entrances to Vocational-Technical Colleges by County, Fall 1972

COUNTY	CENTRAL NEBR. TECH.	LINCOLN NEBR. TECH.	MID-PLAINS TECH.	INSTITUTION NEBR. TECH. MILFORD	NORTHEAST NEBR. TECH.	OMAHA TECH.	WESTERN NEBR. TECH.	TOTAL NEBR. FRESH. ENROLL. BY COUNTY	PERCENTAGE OF NEBR. FRESH. ENROLLMENT
Adams	104	1						105	6.53
Antelope				1	17			18	1.12
Arthur			1					1	.06
Banner								0	.00
Blaine								0	.00
Boone	5	2			1	1		9	.56
Box Butte				1				1	.06
Boyd					4			4	.24
Brown	2	1	2					5	.31
Buffalo	36			5				41	2.55
Burt					15	4		19	1.18
Butler		5		8			2	15	.93
Cass		7		3				10	.62
Cedar		2		3	30			35	2.17
Chase			2				1	3	.18
Cherry		1	1	2			1	5	.31
Cheyenne		1	2				11	14	.87
Clay	29	2						31	1.92
Colfax				2				2	.12
Cuming		2			15			17	1.05
Custer	1		13	3				17	1.05
Dakota				5	1			6	.37
Dawes				1				1	.06
Dawson	46		1	2			4	53	3.29
Deuel							1	1	.06
Dixon					19			19	1.18
Dodge			1	8	2	3	1	15	.93
Douglas		7		12		81		100	6.22
Dundy			1				3	4	.24
Fillmore	3	1		4				8	.49
Franklin	22	3						25	1.55
Frontier			2	1				3	.18
Furnas	12		1					13	.80

EXHIBIT 3 (continued)

COUNTY	CENTRAL NEBR. TECH.	LINCOLN NEBR. TECH.	MID-PLAINS TECH.	INSTITUTION NEBR. TECH. MILFORD	NORTHEAST NEBR. TECH.	OMAHA TECH.	WESTERN NEBR. TECH.	TOTAL NEBR. FRESH. ENROLL. BY COUNTY	PERCENTAGE OF NEBR. FRESH. ENROLLMENT
Gage		7	1	7				15	.93
Garden			2			1		3	.18
Garfield		1					1	2	.12
Gosper	6							6	.37
Grant							1	1	.06
Greeley	13			1				14	.87
Hall	36			3		1		40	2.48
Hamilton	20			1				21	1.30
Harlan	10		1					11	.68
Hayes	1		1					2	.12
Hitchcock				1				1	.06
Holt		2		1	15			18	1.12
Hooker							5	5	.31
Howard	7							7	.43
Jefferson	1	2		2				5	.31
Johnson		2		2				4	.24
Kearney	12				1			13	.80
Keith			7					7	.43
Keya Paha				1			1	2	.12
Kimball				1				1	.06
Knox	1				15			16	.99
Lancaster	2	274	1	37		1	2	317	19.72
Lincoln		5	38					43	2.67
Logan			3					3	.18
Loup	1							1	.06
McPherson								0	.00
Madison		9		2	60			71	4.41
Merrick	10							10	.62
Morrill							2	2	.12
Nance	5							5	.31
Nemaha		2		2				4	.24
Nuckolls	1	2		1				4	.24
Otoe		45		6				51	3.17

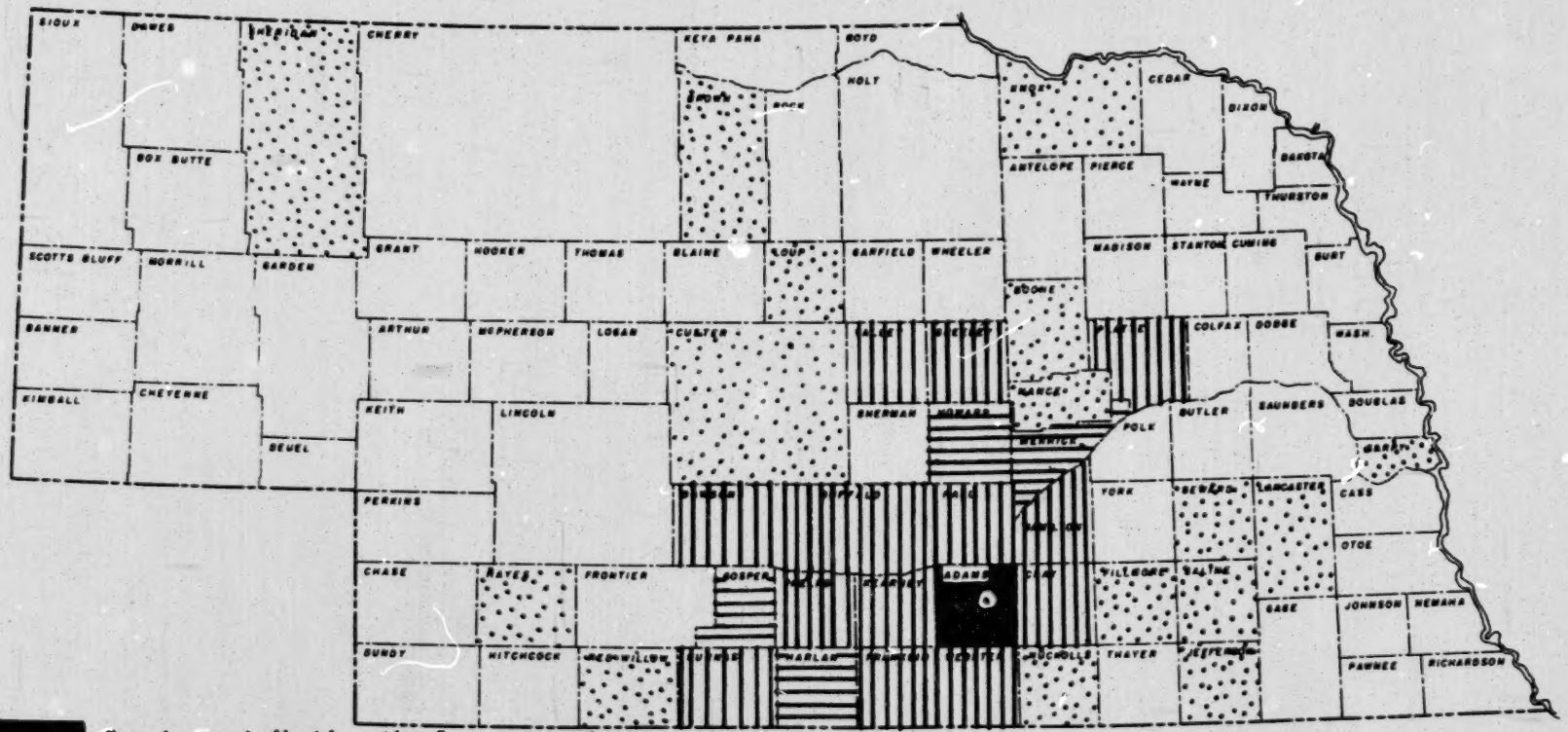
EXHIBIT 3 (continued)

COUNTY	CENTRAL NEBR. TECH.	LINCOLN NEBR. TECH.	MID-PLAINS TECH.	INSTITUTION NEBR. TECH. MILFORD	NORTHEAST NEBR. TECH.	OMAHA TECH.	WESTERN NEBR. TECH.	TOTAL NEBR. FRESH. ENROLL. BY COUNTY	PERCENTAGE OF NEBR. FRESH. ENROLLMENT
Pawnee		1		5				6	.37
Perkins			2	1	1		1	5	.31
Phelps	15		1					16	.99
Pierce		1		1	20	1		23	1.43
Platte	13	2		6				21	1.30
Polk		1		4				5	.31
Red Willow	1	1	2					4	.24
Richardson		9		6		2		17	1.05
Rock							2	2	.12
Saline	1	10	2	5				18	1.12
Sarpy	1	2		6		9		18	1.12
Saunders		8		6				14	.87
Scottsbluff		8					4	12	.74
Seward	2	5		20		1		28	1.74
Sheridan	5						1	6	.37
Sherman								0	.00
Sioux							2	2	.12
Stanton				2	16			18	1.12
Thayer		1		2				3	.18
Thomas			2				1	3	.18
Thurston		2		1	8	2		13	.80
Valley	21							21	1.30
Washington				1				1	.06
Wayne		2			27			29	1.80
Webster	12							12	.74
Wheeler					2			2	.12
York		1		2				3	.18
TOTALS	457	440	90	197	269	107	47	1,607	*

* Total will not equal 100% due to errors in rounding

EXHIBIT 4--Demographic Representation of Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972

CENTRAL NEBRASKA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



County contributing the largest number of students to the college.

11 or more students

6-10 students

1-5 students

Location of college

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EXHIBIT 5--Demographic Representation of Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972

LINCOLN NEBRASKA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

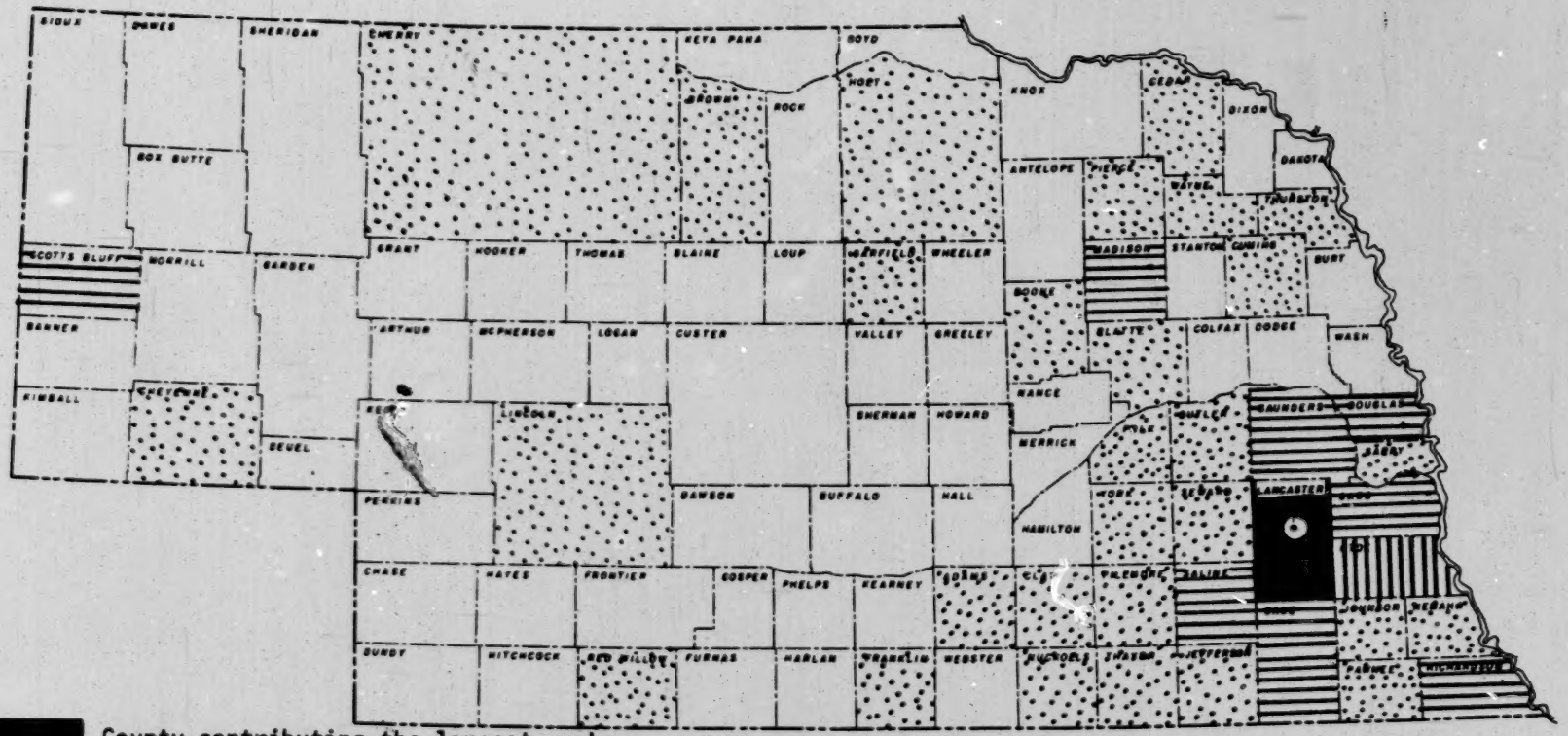

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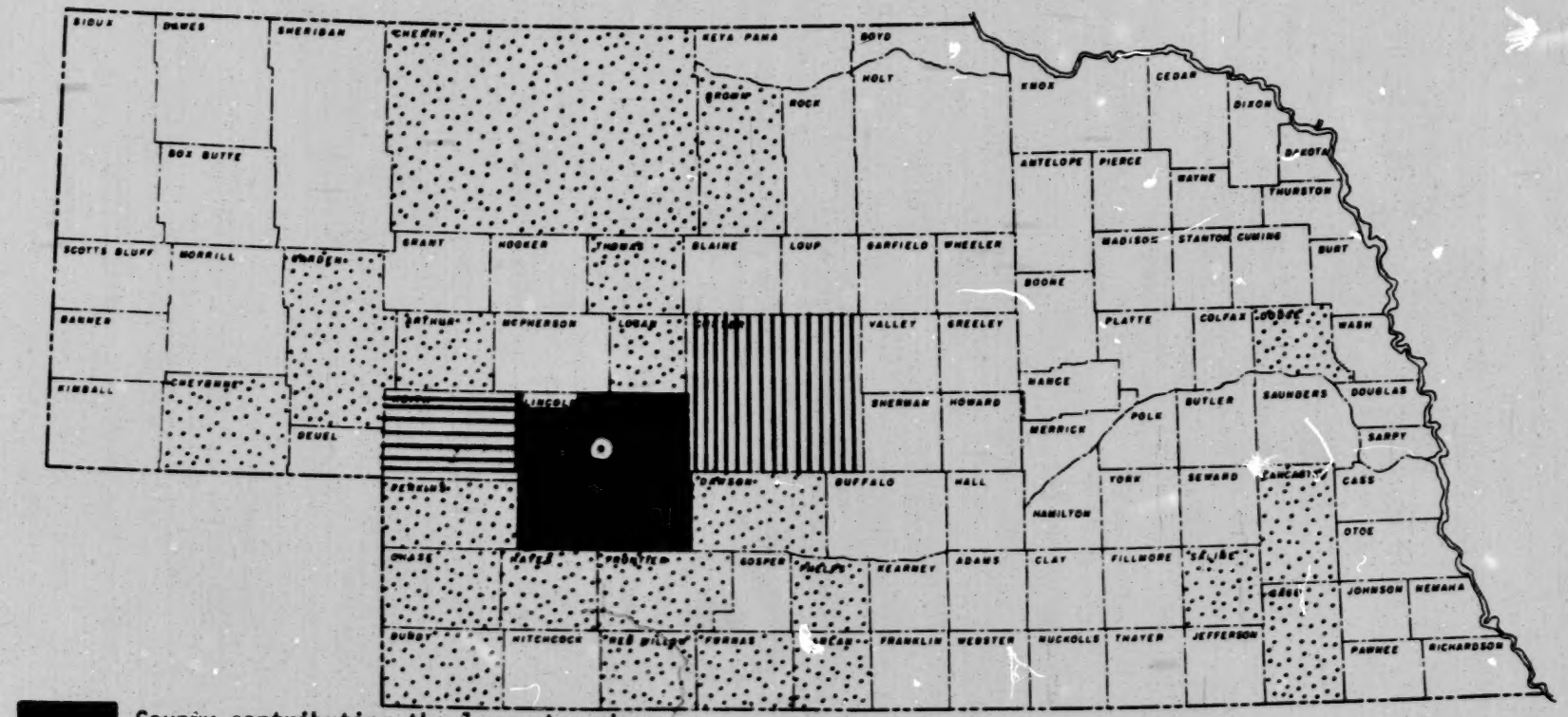
EXHIBIT 6--Demographic Representation of Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972

MID-PLAINS NEBRASKA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



County contributing the largest number of students to the college.

11 or more students

6-10 students

1-5 students

Location of college

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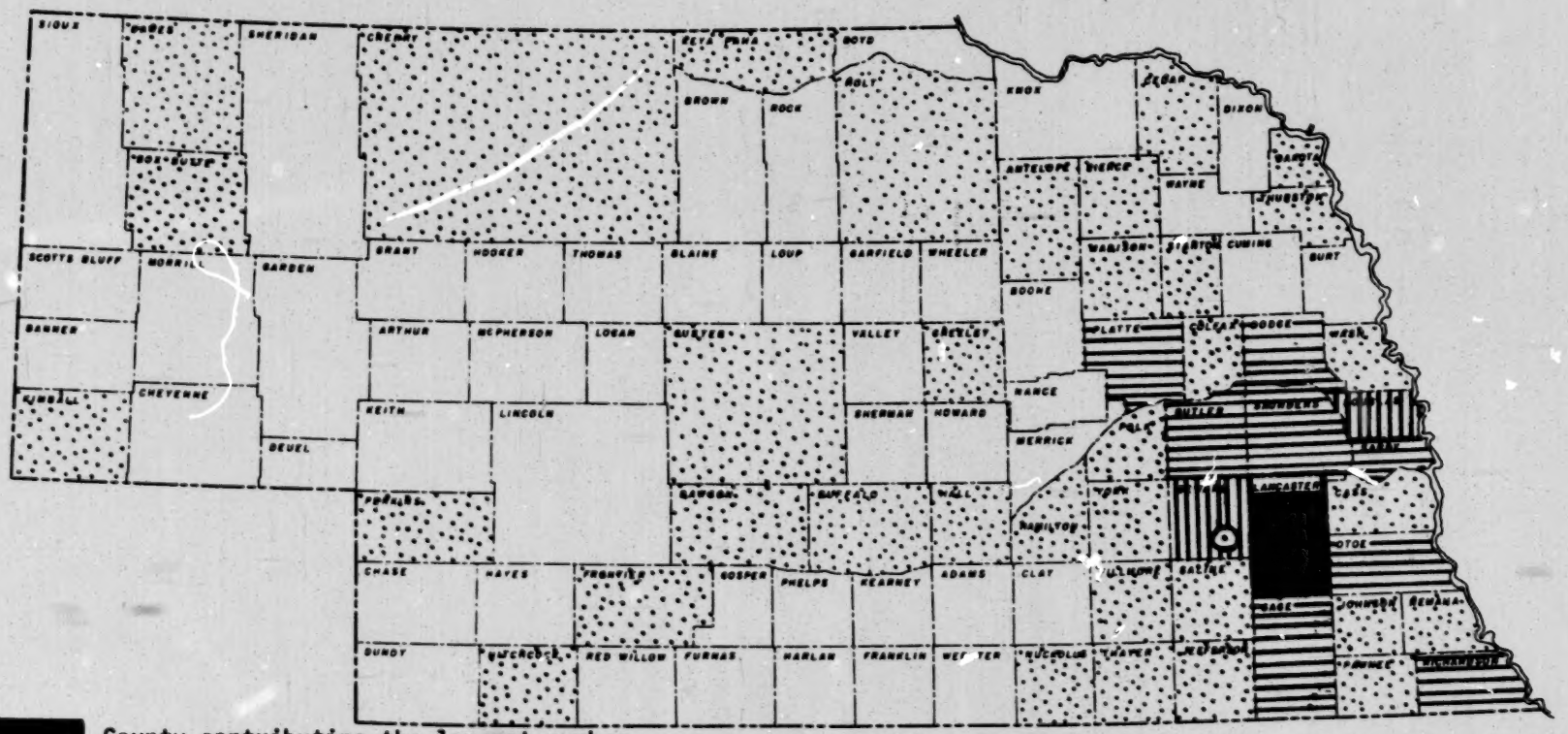
EXHIBIT 7--Demographic Representation of Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972

NEBRASKA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE--MILFORD



County contributing the largest number of students to the college.

11 or more students

6-10 students

1-5 students

Location of college

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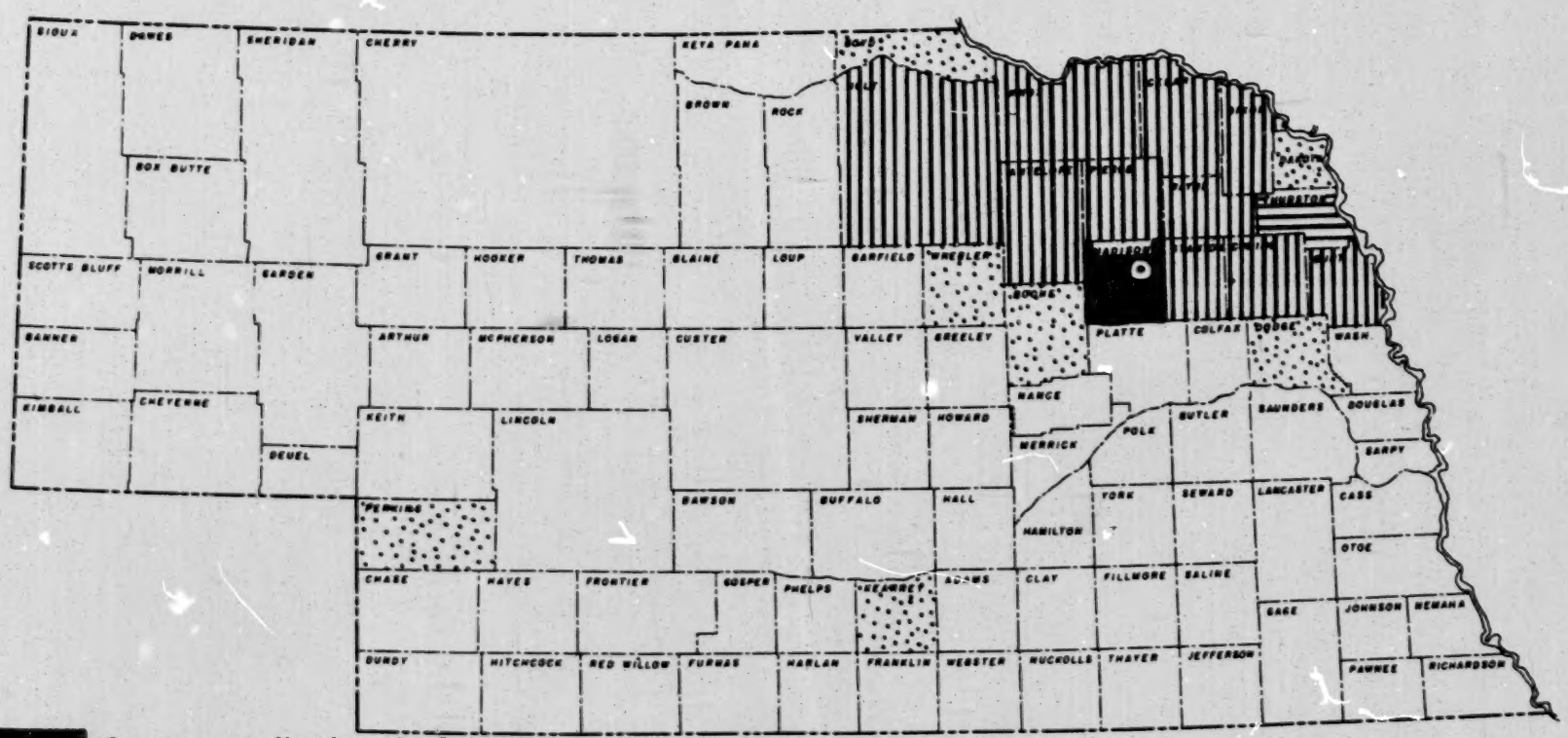
EXHIBIT 8--Demographic Representation of Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972

NORTHEAST NEBRASKA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



County contributing the largest number of students to the college.

11 or more students

6-10 students

1-5 students

Location of college

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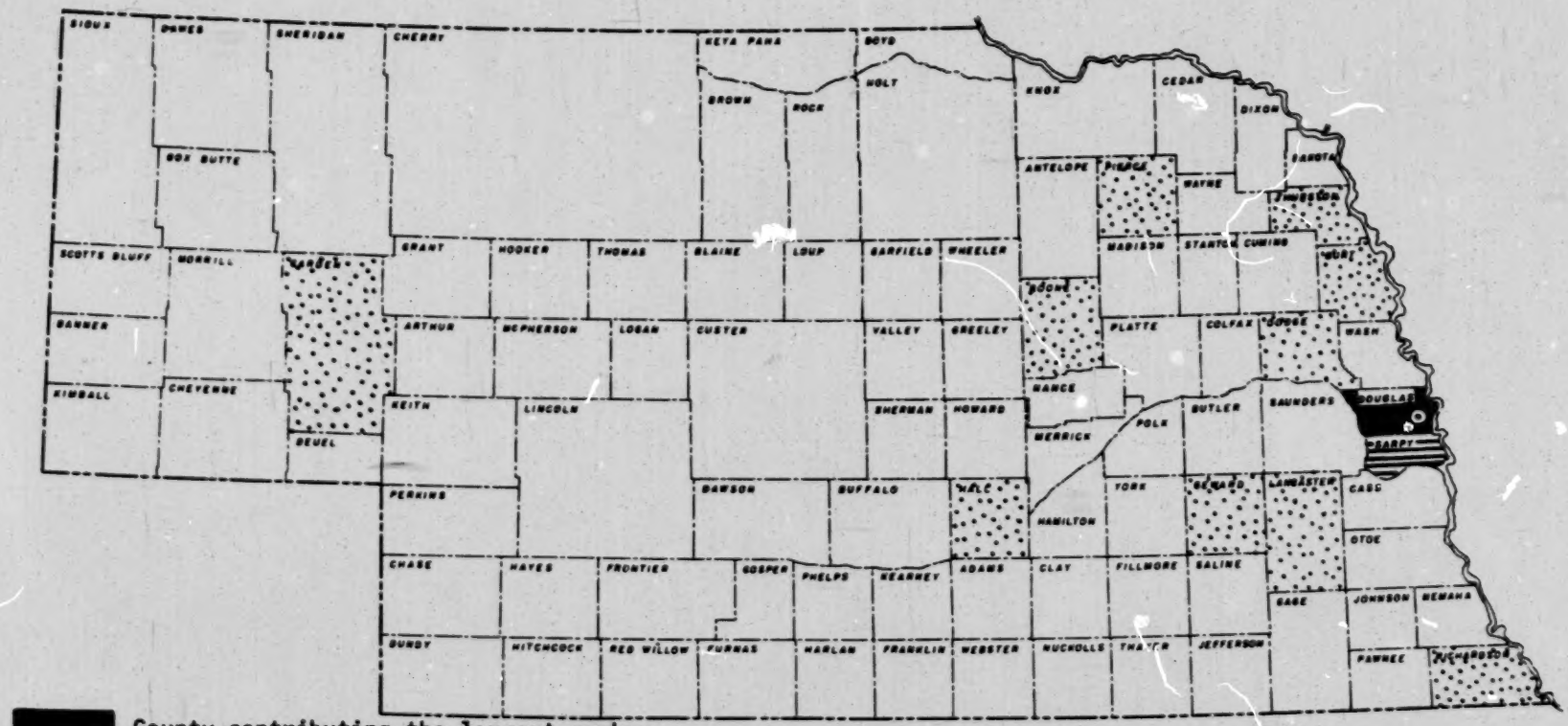
EXHIBIT 9--Demographic Representation of Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972

OMAHA NEBRASKA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



County contributing the largest number of students to the college.

11 or more students

6-10 students

1-5 students

Location of college

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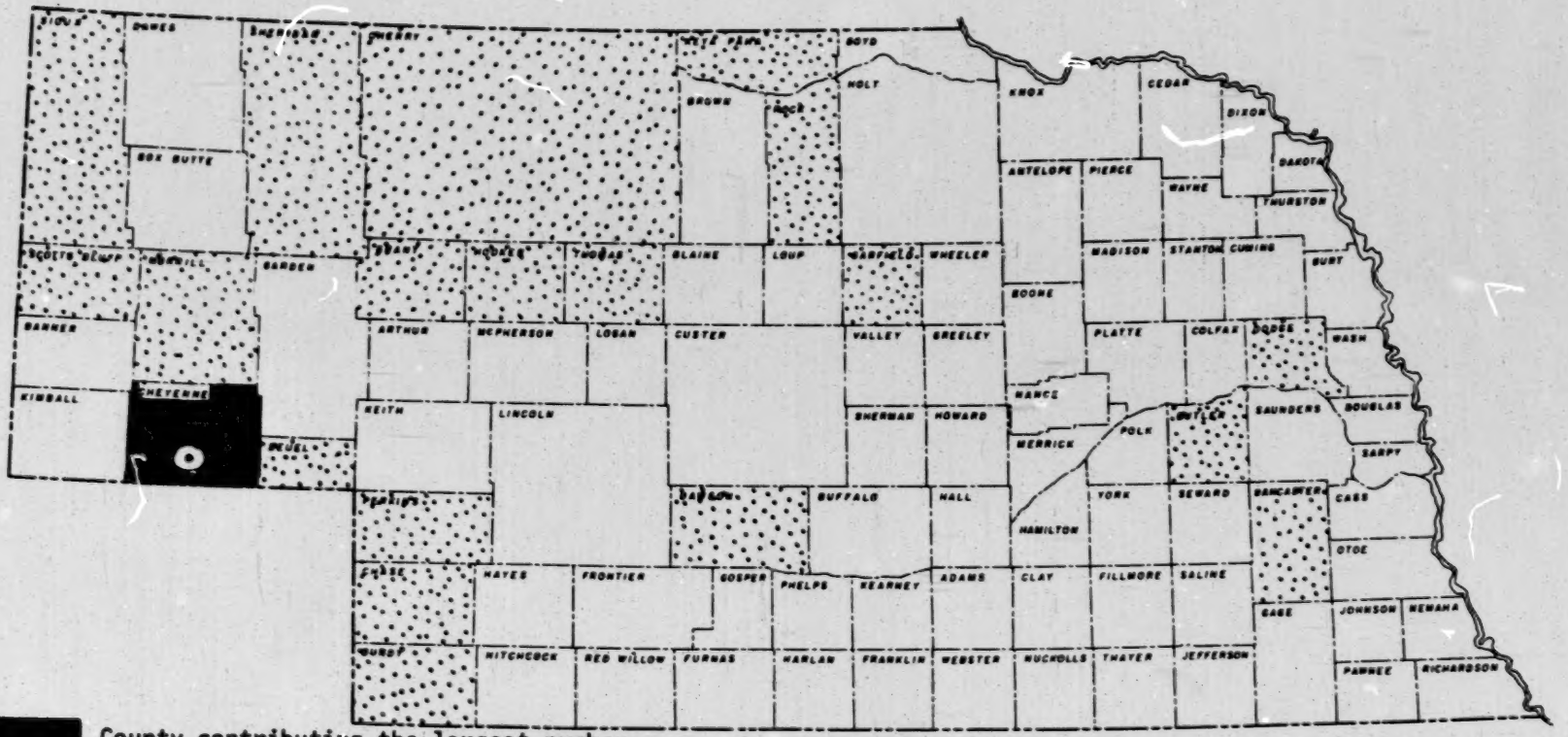
EXHIBIT 10--Demographic Representation of Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972

WESTERN NEBRASKA TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



County contributing the largest number of students to the college.

11 or more students

6-10 students

1-5 students

Location of college

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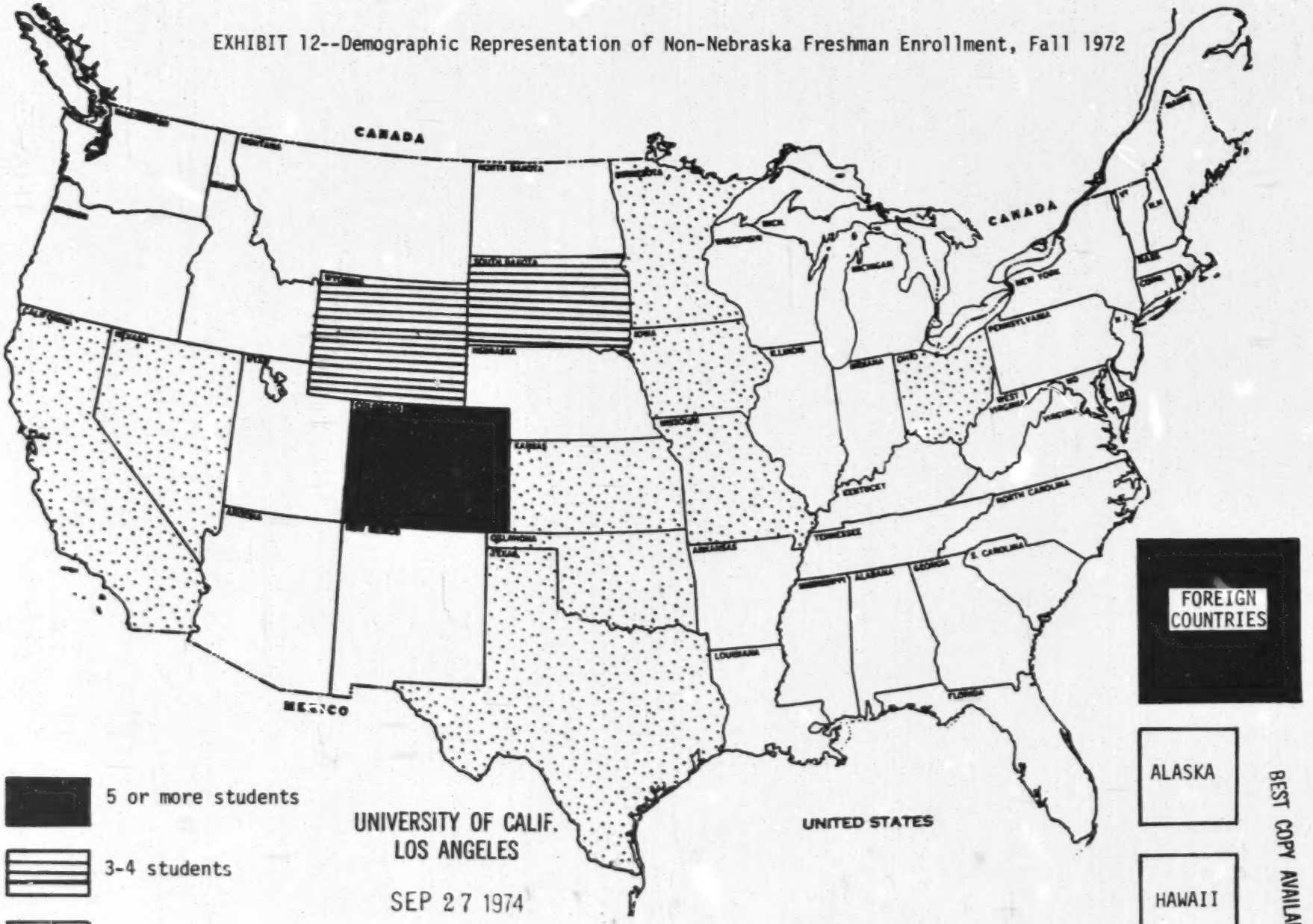
EXHIBIT 11--Non-Nebraska Freshman Entrances to Vocational-Technical Colleges by State, Fall 1972

STATE OF RESIDENCE	INSTITUTION: CENTRAL NEBR. TECH.	LINCOLN NEBR. TECH.	MID-PLAINS TECH.	NEBR. TECH. MILFORD	NORTHEAST NEBR. TECH.	OMAHA TECH.	WESTERN NEBR. TECH.	TOTAL NON-NEBR. FRESH. ENROLL. BY STATE	PERCENTAGE OF NON-NEBR. FRESH. ENROLL.
California		1						1	2.94
Colorado	1						7	8	23.52
Iowa				1		1		2	5.88
Kansas				1				1	2.94
Minnesota						1		1	2.94
Missouri	1			1				2	5.88
Nevada			1					1	2.94
Ohio						1		1	2.94
Oklahoma	1					1		2	5.88
South Dakota	2			1			1	4	11.76
Texas			1					1	2.94
Wyoming			1				3	4	11.76
Foreign	1	5						6	17.64
TOTALS	6	6	3	4		4	11	34	*

* Total will not equal 100% due to errors in rounding.

EXHIBIT 12--Demographic Representation of Non-Nebraska Freshman Enrollment, Fall 1972



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